

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 1, 2004, has been received and reviewed. Claims 26, 27 and 29 stand rejected. Claims 26 and 27 have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1 through 24, and 28 through 29 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 through 24 and 28 have been allowed. Applicants have amended claim 29 and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Anticipation Rejections

Anticipation Rejection Based on U.S. Patent No. 5,460,230 to Dekoster

Claims 26, 27 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dekoster (U.S. Patent No. 5,460,230). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Claims 26 and 27 have been cancelled. Therefore, the rejection relative to each of claims 26 and 27 is moot.

Claim 29 has been amended to depend from independent claim 24, which has been allowed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of dependent claim 29, as presently amended.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendment to claim 29 above should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings. Further, the amendments do not raise new issues or require a further search.

CONCLUSION

Claim 29 is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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